

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Edward Litwinski Confirmation No.: 4871
 Appl No.: 10/035,865 Group Art Unit: 1725
 Filed: December 26, 2001 Examiner: Not assigned
 For: HIGH STRENGTH FRICTION STIR WELDING

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Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 are cited herein because they were cited in the Search Report dated June 16, 2003, of corresponding European Application No. 02 025 893.5-1262. A copy of the Search Report and the cited references are enclosed. The Examiner may also wish to consider the notations on the Search Report itself regarding the relevance of each item.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these references and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

As noted above, each item of information listed on form PTO-1449 was first cited in a Search Report from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. In addition, this Search Report was not received by any individual designated by 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry B. Ward, III
 Henry B. Ward, III
 Registration No. 42,212

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
 Bank of America Plaza
 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
 Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
 Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 3, 2003

Elaine Kelly
 Elaine Kelly